

George's entire career was devoted to public service. In the 1950's, he was named to head the Denver Housing Authority. In 1955, he was appointed to the Colorado House of Representatives, and later became the first African American elected to the Colorado State Senate. In 1974 he gained national attention when he was elected Lieutenant Governor of Colorado—the first African American so honored in U.S. history. As a major public figure, he became an influential spokesman for justice and equity in Colorado and beyond.

Following retirement from government George worked as a consultant in the private sector in Washington while remaining involved with public causes, including the Boys Choir of Harlem. Just two weeks before his passing, George co-chaired the National Black Peoples Unity Convention in Gary, Indiana, addressing economic strategies to empower African Americans.

With all of his professional success, George was first and foremost a family man. I remember his joy with the addition of each new grandchild to his family. He is survived by his wife, Modeen; two sisters, Harriet Baskerville and Laura Gilyard; nine children, Gail Chandler, Cindy Brown, Kim Brown, Laura Mitchell, Angela Ashley, Carolyn Smith, Sharolyn Williams, Nyra Crenshaw, and Ronald Crenshaw, as well as seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

George was not only a great man, but a loyal friend who would always be there to lend a helping hand or to just listen. He was a source of inspiration to me and to everyone who knew him. May God bless him and his family.

TRIBUTE TO GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Greek Independence Day. I am proud to represent Greek-town in Chicago and the many Greek-Americans that live on the near west side.

185 years ago, on March 25, 1821, Greece declared its independence from the Ottoman Empire. On that day, a great friendship was born between the two nations. Americans went to fight for Greece's independence and Americans and Greeks have fought side by side since that time. Over the past 185 years many Greeks have immigrated to the United States and a great number live in my district today.

Greece's location at the southern end of the Balkan Peninsula on the Mediterranean has positioned Greece at the crossroads of Europe, Asia, and Africa ensuring that it shares not only the cultural richness of that diverse region, but also some of the great troubles that have plagued that area.

Hopefully this Congress we can work together to ensure peace in the region, the sovereignty of Greece, and a strong and lasting friendship between the United States and Greece.

COLLEGE ACCESS AND OPPORTUNITY ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 609) to amend and extend the Higher Education Act of 1965:

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to address the need for high quality teachers in our Nation's schools. In many of our urban and rural school districts there continues to be a shortage of teachers who have a solid background in the subjects of math, science and foreign language. This shortage is resulting in sub-standard education for these students where in many cases college preparatory courses are not available in upper level math, calculus, physics, chemistry and biology. As a result many of these students will not complete high school or pursue a college education. Even if students go onto higher education, they face numerous obstacles completing their college coursework as they have not had the same college preparatory background as their counterparts. Providing high quality teachers in these critical subject areas is key in ending the achievement gap that exists throughout this country.

I fully support the ideas behind the Amendment offered by Ms. MCMORRIS, Mr. HOLT, and Mr. DREIER. For low-income urban and rural schools an Adjunct Teacher Corp. could offer a lifeline for these students. It is extremely unfortunate that there were not provisions within the amendment that would expand training requirements for these faculty members. We must ensure that our students not only have teachers with a strong background in their subject area, but also have the proper training to convey that knowledge to their students. While I agree, that it is imperative to get these teachers into the classroom as soon as possible, there needs to be specific training requirements and adequate monitoring of faculty. In addition, I continue to have serious reservations regarding the undercutting of collective bargaining laws within this amendment. Without clarification on these provisions, I unfortunately could not support this amendment.

I do however, applaud my colleagues for their efforts on this important issue, and would like to work with them in the future on efforts to provide high quality teachers in every classroom.

IN HONOR OF EUGENIA STOLARCZYK'S POLISH RADIO PROGRAM

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute and recognition of the 45th Anniversary of Eugenia Stolarczyk's Polish Radio Program, broadcast every Sunday morning on Cleveland's WCPN 90.3 FM and WERE 1300 AM,

as she is honored by the Polish American Cultural Center of Cleveland, established in 2001.

The native language, music and news of Poland streams from the radio on Sunday mornings, here in Cleveland and around the country, connecting Americans of Polish heritage to their beloved homeland. The music and song of Poland, from classical to polka, serves as a living bridge that transcends time and distance, connecting the memories, history, spirit and culture of Poland.

Eugenia Stolarczyk's talent, passion and joy in promoting Polish music, culture and news brings the soul of Poland into the kitchens and living rooms of people living on Fleet Avenue in Cleveland and along avenues across the country. American citizens who emigrated here from Poland add significant depth, richness and brilliant color to the diverse fabric of nations that comprise the cultural fabric of Cleveland, reflecting the heart and soul of our nation—a nation founded on, and unified by, the grit and struggle for freedom—a nation of immigrants.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Eugenia Stolarczyk, whose dedication, talent and energy has illuminated the radio waves from Cleveland to California every Sunday morning for the past 45 years, echoing the spirited melodies and language of Poland. This vital radio broadcast serves as a guardian of ancestry, protecting and preserving the song and spirit of Poland for every new generation to come to embrace—with just a turn of the dial.

ACKNOWLEDGING THE TENTH AN- NIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF RONALD H. BROWN, FORMER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the legacy and memory of Ronald H. Brown, the former Secretary of Commerce on this tenth anniversary of his untimely passing and to enter into the RECORD an article written to Ron Brown's legacy entitled "The Constituency for Africa Remembers Ron Brown".

On April 3, 1996, Ron Brown and a 34-person United States delegation had concluded a trade mission to the Balkans and were returning to the United States when their airplane crashed into the side of a mountain in Croatia.

Ronald Harmon Brown, the first African American to hold the office of U.S. Secretary of Commerce, was born in Washington, D.C. in 1941. He grew up in New York, and with the help of a scholarship attended Middlebury College in Vermont. He received his law degree from St. John's University, attending at night while working by day as a welfare case-worker for the City of New York. He also served for four years in the Army in both Germany and Korea.

Brown, a strong, independent leader, was a lawyer, a skilled negotiator, a pragmatic bridge builder and a highly successful past chairman of the Democratic National Committee. He brought this wide range of experiences to the position of Secretary of Commerce and vowed to reach out to our neighbors abroad to promote long-term economic growth that included